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ARKANSAS  
LIBRARIES



ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSN.

ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 19-20, 1950

Vol. 6, Series II

April, 1950

Number 4

Issued Quarterly

ARKANSAS LIBRARY COMMISSION

In Co-operation With

ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
GENERAL LIBRARY

# Arkansas Libraries

Vol. 6, Series II

April, 1950

Number 4

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Miss Irene Mason, Librarian and Executive Secretary

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Miss Marcella Grider, Vice President .....	Fayetteville
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Miss Myrtle Deason, Member-at-large .....	North Little Rock
Miss Irene Mason, A.L.A. Councilor .....	Little Rock

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## COMMITTEES FOR 1950-51

## Standing Committees

## Education for Librarianship

Miss Constance Mitchell, Chairman ..... Conway  
 Miss Marcella Grider ..... Fayetteville

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 Mr. L. H. Autrey ..... Burdette  
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 Mrs. D. L. Purkins ..... Warren

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Mrs. Mary Coker, Chairman ..... Little Rock

## Annual Meeting Committees

## Decorations and Flowers

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 Mrs. Grant Collar ..... Joiner

## Local Arrangements and Registration

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 Mrs. L. H. Caldwell ..... Little Rock  
 Miss Ida Mae Hagin ..... Little Rock  
 Miss Freddy Schader ..... Little Rock  
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## Special Committees, continued

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Miss Heloise Griffon .....	Little Rock
Mrs. Elizabeth Marsh .....	Little Rock
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Miss Mavis Rodman .....	Wilson
Mrs. W. N. Truelock, Jr. ....	Pine Bluff
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## SECTIONAL OFFICERS OF ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION FOR 1950-1951

**College**

Miss Allie C. Wilson, Chairman;  
Librarian, Henderson State Teachers  
College, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Miss Georgena Wright, Secretary;  
Librarian, State A. & M. College,  
Magnolia, Arkansas.

**County**

Miss Mary Sue Shepherd, Chair-  
man, Pulaski County Librarian, Little  
Rock, Arkansas.

Miss Vivian Maddox, Vice-Chair-  
man, Garland County Librarian, Hot  
Springs, Arkansas.

Mrs. F. L. Proctor, Secretary, Pub-  
lic Library, Forrest City, Arkansas.

**School**

Miss Florene Jordan, Chairman;  
Librarian, Magnolia High School,  
Magnolia, Arkansas.

Miss Eunice Shinn, Secretary; Li-  
brarian, Luxora High School, Luxora.

**Trustee**

Mr. Charles Reynerson, Chairman,  
Hope, Arkansas.

## GOALS FOR ARKANSAS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Frances Potter Neal<sup>1</sup>

Arkansas has been the subject of many jokes about the general backwardness of the state. It is difficult for Arkansawyers to be objective about the actual shortcomings of their state in the face of the stereotyped characterization of Arkansas which has been a popular theme for many years. It is easy to be sensitive to any remark that is not complimentary to Arkansas. Is there reason to believe that we are using our deficiencies as a defense for the continuation of poor conditions instead of attempting constructive action to overcome them?

It is true that the per capita income of Arkansas citizens is low; the ratio of children to adults in the population is high; the per capita support for schools and libraries compares unfavorably with that in wealthy states, although the per cent of taxable wealth spent for education is higher than in many richer states. It is also true that there is a correlation between lack of books and reading and lack of technical skills and professional accomplishments. Arkansas young people as a whole do not have educational opportunity comparable with that of young people in New York and California, for instance.

In spite of our handicaps, what goals for Arkansas librarians and libraries can we set for achievement by 1951? Miss Mildred Batchelder, Executive Secretary, Division of Libraries for Children and Young People, American Library Association, in her address to Arkansas librarians at the Hotel Marion, Little Rock, Arkansas, November 17, 1950, asked us to set goals for accomplishment during the coming year and to be ready to report on our progress at the American Library Association's

75th Anniversary Celebration in Chicago, July, 1951. Please re-read Miss Batchelder's address, "Looking Toward A. L. A.'s 75th Anniversary", ARKANSAS LIBRARIES, January, 1950, pages 29-35.

I wish it were possible for me to talk with each of you about goals for Arkansas in the fields of librarianship and library service. Since we can not do this, I would appreciate having a letter from you giving me your ideas of what we may do as individuals, as institutions, and as a state organization to improve libraries in Arkansas. Write to me in care of the Arkansas Library Association, 506½ Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

I have thought of a few questions which we might ask ourselves before formulating our goals:

1. Have I paid my Arkansas Library Association membership dues for 1950?
2. Is my library an institutional member of the Arkansas Library Association? (See page 9 in this issue.)
3. Am I a member of the American Library Association?
4. Have I made a contribution to the American Library Association Washington Office Fund? (See page 8 in this issue.)
5. Are the members of my library board, members of the Arkansas Library Association?
6. Have I told members of other educational, civic, and social organizations about the services and needs of my library?
7. Am I interested in a study of the history of Arkansas and her problems?

<sup>1</sup> Mrs. Karl Neal, Reference Librarian, Arkansas Library Commission.

8. Does my library own a copy of ARKANSAS by John Gould Fletcher<sup>2</sup> and of ARKANSAS: A GUIDE TO THE STATE<sup>3</sup>?

9. Am I making the best use of library materials and services which are ALREADY AVAILABLE in Arkansas libraries?

<sup>2</sup> John Gould Fletcher, **Arkansas** (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1947), \$5.00.

<sup>3</sup> Writers' Program, **Arkansas: A Guide To The State** (New York, Hastings House: Second Printing, 1948), \$4.50.

## LIBRARY DEMONSTRATION BILL LOSES BY THREE VOTES<sup>1</sup>

Your head will be spinning with—Oscar Ewing sending out books—socialistic bill—national bankruptcy—Red propaganda—W. P. A.—threats to our freedom—more bankruptcy—all these will be spinning through your head if you read what was said in Congress about the Library Demonstration bill. You will find other viewpoints also, of course, strongly supporting the bill.

All in all, librarians and trustees should take this debate as "required reading" if they are (1) to understand just what the Demonstration bill ran into in Congress and (2) to contribute their own best judgment as to how fuller library coverage of the United States, stronger library service, can be achieved. We need convictions, and this Congressional debate helps us realize more clearly the problem that confronts us.

If you do not have the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, in which the debate is recorded, write to your Congressman and ask him for a copy of the March 9, 1950, issue. Then you will have twenty-three pages of debate to read, from 3164 to 3187. Thousands of words about libraries—and a number of other things. Although we have no way of checking the matter, it is unlikely that there

is any other record of legislative debate on public library matters available for study. Who was against the Library Demonstration bill and why? Can you answer their arguments?

In spite of the economy drive and the political battles, the remarkable and heartening thing is that the Library Demonstration bill almost passed. Such strength in the face of what was said on the floor denotes strength, strength due to the place the public library has won for itself in America, and due to the efforts made by librarians and others in most parts of the United States to acquaint their Congressmen with the need for the bill, and also due to the careful work of the A.L.A. Washington office.

The resulting situation will be considered by the A.L.A. Federal Relations committee this spring, with the likelihood that "next steps" can be decided upon by the membership at the A.L.A. conference in Cleveland this summer.

Oh, yes—the vote. 161 Representatives voted for the Library Demonstration bill, 164 against it! A remarkable support in the light of the times in Congress. A few more votes would have done it. Should we give up?

<sup>1</sup> Reprinted from "Public Libraries", March, 1950, with permission of the editor, Raymond C. Lindquist.

## A LETTER TO ARKANSAS LIBRARIANS FROM THE FEDERAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

To Arkansas Librarians:

The Arkansas Library Association is asking each member to contribute \$1.00 during the year 1950 toward the support of the Washington Office of the American Library Association.

Everyone interested in the Library Demonstration Bill is proud of the fine work done by the Washington Office in behalf of this bill. This office serves all librarians in many ways. Mr. Raymond C. Lindquist, Chairman of the American Library Association, Federal Relations Committee, said in a recent letter to Mrs. Karl Neal, president of the Arkansas Library Association:

"Even though the Library Demonstration bill failed (and it lost by only three votes!) the Washington representative has many matters for action. Recently the Federal Relations Committee had a meeting in Washington, and it is working on a legislative program to submit to the American Library Association membership at the Cleveland Conference this summer. Mrs. Malmberg, our Washington representative, is watching and working on such matters as Social Se-

curity, depository libraries, postal rates and a number of other bills that are of much concern to libraries."

Because the need for funds was great and immediate, the Board of the Arkansas Library Association voted to send \$100 (one hundred dollars) from the treasury now. This to be replaced by voluntary contribution from the librarians in this state.

We are asking that each member of the Arkansas Library Association send a contribution of at least \$1.00 to Mrs. Delbert Swartz, 607 North Razorback Road, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

The Washington Office serves the interests of all librarians. It deserves your support.

Sincerely yours,  
Sylvia G. Swartz  
(Mrs.) Delbert Swartz  
Chairman  
Federal Relations Committee

Federal Relations Committee

Sylvia G. Swartz  
Irene Mason  
Frances Neal



## ARKANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

(Adopted November 14, 1944)

Since the Arkansas Library Association has no official handbook, we plan to give you several articles of the Constitution and By-laws in the 1950 issues of ARKANSAS LIBRARIES. A Directory of the Membership of our state library association will be printed in the October issue. This issue should be in the hands of all members before the annual convention, October 19-20. To this end, we hope that each one will make certain that we have the correct form of name, address and position. Please send information and membership dues to Mrs. Marie Pinckney, Secretary of Membership Committee, Arkansas Library Association, 506½ Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas.

### Membership<sup>1</sup>

#### Section 1. Type of Membership.

(1) **Active.** Any individual who is or has been engaged in library work within the state may become an active member of this association and be entitled to all its privileges upon payment of annual dues as provided in the By-Laws.

(2) **Life.** Any person eligible for active membership may become a life member, exempt from annual dues, upon payment of fee as provided.

(3) **Associate.** Any person interested in library work and the objectives of this association may become an associate member upon payment of dues as provided in the By-Laws.

(4) **Institutional.** Any library or educational institution or other organi-

zation interested in the work of the association and approved by the Executive Board may become an institutional member upon payment of dues as provided for in the By-Laws.

(5) **Honorary.** Upon nomination by the Executive Board, persons who have rendered important service to the library interests or general educational interests of the state may be elected honorary members by a vote of the members present at any official meeting of the Association.

### Chapter Membership in the A.L.A.<sup>2</sup>

This association shall hold a chapter membership in the American Library Association and shall elect a councilor for representation on the A.L.A. Council in accordance with provisions of the By-Laws of that association.

### Official Years<sup>3</sup>

Section 1. **Membership Year.** The membership year for the Association shall be the calendar year.

### Dues and Fees<sup>4</sup>

Section 1. **Annual Members. Dues** as specified below shall be payable on January 1 of each calendar year. Members whose dues are unpaid on March 1 of each year shall be considered as delinquent and shall be dropped from membership if such de-

<sup>1</sup> Arkansas Library Association, Constitution, Article III.

<sup>2</sup> Arkansas Library Association, Constitution, Article V.

<sup>3</sup> Arkansas Library Association, By-Laws, Article III.

<sup>4</sup> Arkansas Library Association, By-Laws, Article IV.

linquency is continued for one month after notice has been given. Lapsed members may be reinstated upon payment of dues for the current year. Dues are as follows:

- (a) Active members: \$1.00 per year.
- (b) Life members: \$25.00.
- (c) Associate members: \$1.00 per year.
- (d) Institutional members: \$2.00 per year.
- (e) Honorary members shall pay no dues.

**Section 2. New Members.** Dues of new members who join the Association after the close of the conference year shall apply to the next membership year.

**Section 3. Conference Fee.** For all persons attending any annual or special meeting of the Association there may be a registration fee, not to ex-

ceed fifty cents, as fixed by the Executive Board.

**Section 4. Reserve Fund.** Moneys received from life memberships and from institutional memberships shall be invested by the Executive Board as a permanent Reserve Fund, of which the income only shall be expended.

#### Membership Privileges<sup>5</sup>

All classes of members shall have equal membership rights, except that **only** active and life members shall have the right to hold office.

#### Committees<sup>6</sup>

(1) **Membership Committee.** The membership committee shall endeavor to enroll a large and active membership for the Association, and shall cooperate with the state committee member of the A.L.A. to urge membership also in that association.

### PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS CONCERNED WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES

**DO YOU KNOW** that your State Library Commission receives the following periodical publications concerned with foreign countries:

**Americas.** Published in English, Spanish, and Portuguese by the Pan-American Union, General Secretariat of the Organization of American States, Washington 6, D. C.

**Coming Events in Britain.** Published monthly by the Travel Association—Tourist Division of the British Tourist and Holidays Board.

**Dominican Republic,** a Bulletin of the Dominican Embassy. Published in Washington, D. C.

**Egypt Cultural Bulletin** and

**Egypt News,** published by the Royal Egyptian Embassy, Washington 8, D. C.

**Iran Review,** bi-monthly publication of the Irano-American Society, Inc., New York City.

Also received are:

First report of the **Transvaal Library Advisory Committee.** Published by the Transvaal Provincial Administration; printed in the Union of South Africa, at Pretoria, June, 1948.

And - - - :

**Advance Program for the Festival of Britain, 1951.** (London)

**International Festival of Music and Drama, 1950 Resume of Programmes.** (Edinburgh, Scotland.)

<sup>5</sup> Arkansas Library Association, By-Laws, Article V.

<sup>6</sup> Arkansas Library Association, By-Laws, Article VIII.

## A LOOK WITHIN

by Annie Mae Alston<sup>1</sup>

Some months ago I threw my pride and my consideration for others to the four winds and sent out the proverbial questionnaire to fifteen colleges and universities which were on the approved listings of their regional accrediting associations. I summoned up such courage because I was brand new at this business of college librarianship and I wanted to know the real goings-on of certain library procedures—not what we learned in the texts of administration courses, but what was actually happening when library students left their theory and started their practice.

I've reserved a very warm spot in my heart for those fifteen college librarians who took the time from their multifarious duties (and even that early in the game I knew that was the word for them) to respond.

In this article I am concerned with only one phase of the questionnaire. What devices do you employ to encourage teachers who are not library-minded (and I think there is such a category) to become so? I had hoped to be able to adapt Shakespeare's own classification of retorts, but the analogy didn't seem to follow quite all the way through, and another classification has been used.

**Retort ordinary**—the librarian checks *Publishers' Weekly* and several review journals selecting all titles he thinks should be in the library. He sends lists, about six a year, to professors who may wish to order these books. The professors order about 50% of those suggested and any others they wish. We have book displays; we send them notices of new books; we keep a running file of the new additions on an attractive

display counter; we frequently dress up the books in their dust jackets to give them new life; we have library teas; we have visiting specialists with demonstrations (e.g.: We had a local artist with some reputation display his drawings in the library for book week; he came one day and demonstrated his technique to the students and the public; we climaxed his lecture with a lovely tea).

At the first faculty meeting of last fall we had a panel discussion on the use of the library, with considerable emphasis on the use of the library by the teachers and the obligation of teachers to know the library—especially that portion which related to their own fields—and to direct their students to it.

Arouse their interest in a casual conversation by mentioning some new books or something the library is doing.

Form letters are sent to faculty. Trade material is passed along.

**Retort incredible**—All of our faculty are very library-minded and fortunately no methods are necessary to encourage them to use the library. They are all most cooperative in checking second-hand catalogs and in building up a want list. Good teachers are library-minded. (Retort axiomatic.)

**Retort threatening**—Tell them if their departmental appropriation is not spent it will revert to another department.

**Retort contented**—In general, we try to have one member in each department act as liaison officer in handling orders for books and we are satisfied if this individual takes an active interest in promoting orders.

<sup>1</sup> Librarian, Harding College, Searcy, Arkansas.

**Retort laissez faire**—We are so busy with our students that we have little time to encourage the faculty to read.

**Retort unique**—We do not seem to have that difficulty.

**Retort fatal**—this cannot be done; the age of miracles is past.

Until we librarians can more deeply feel the worth of our task and more clearly demonstrate that conviction to others we have little hope of winning and influencing faculty members.

### ARKANSAS COLLEGE LIBRARY "BROWSER"

Arkansas College Library gave a "browser" for the faculty and staff at the library on the evening of March 17.

Two notable books of 1949 of interest to educators were reviewed by faculty members. **The Mature Mind** by Overstreet was discussed by Dr. A. L. Harold; **The Crisis in Education** was discussed by Professor F. H. Harrin.

Of special interest were exhibits from the Eugene R. Long collection of old and rare books, memorial gifts, new reference and fiction titles.

Mrs. Margaret Lester and Mrs. B. M. Huddleston, members of the Library Committee, presided at the coffee table.

The enthusiasm of the faculty encourages the librarians to plan an annual "browser".

## RECOGNITION OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN LIBRARY SCIENCE

The Arkansas Library Commission has received the following communication:

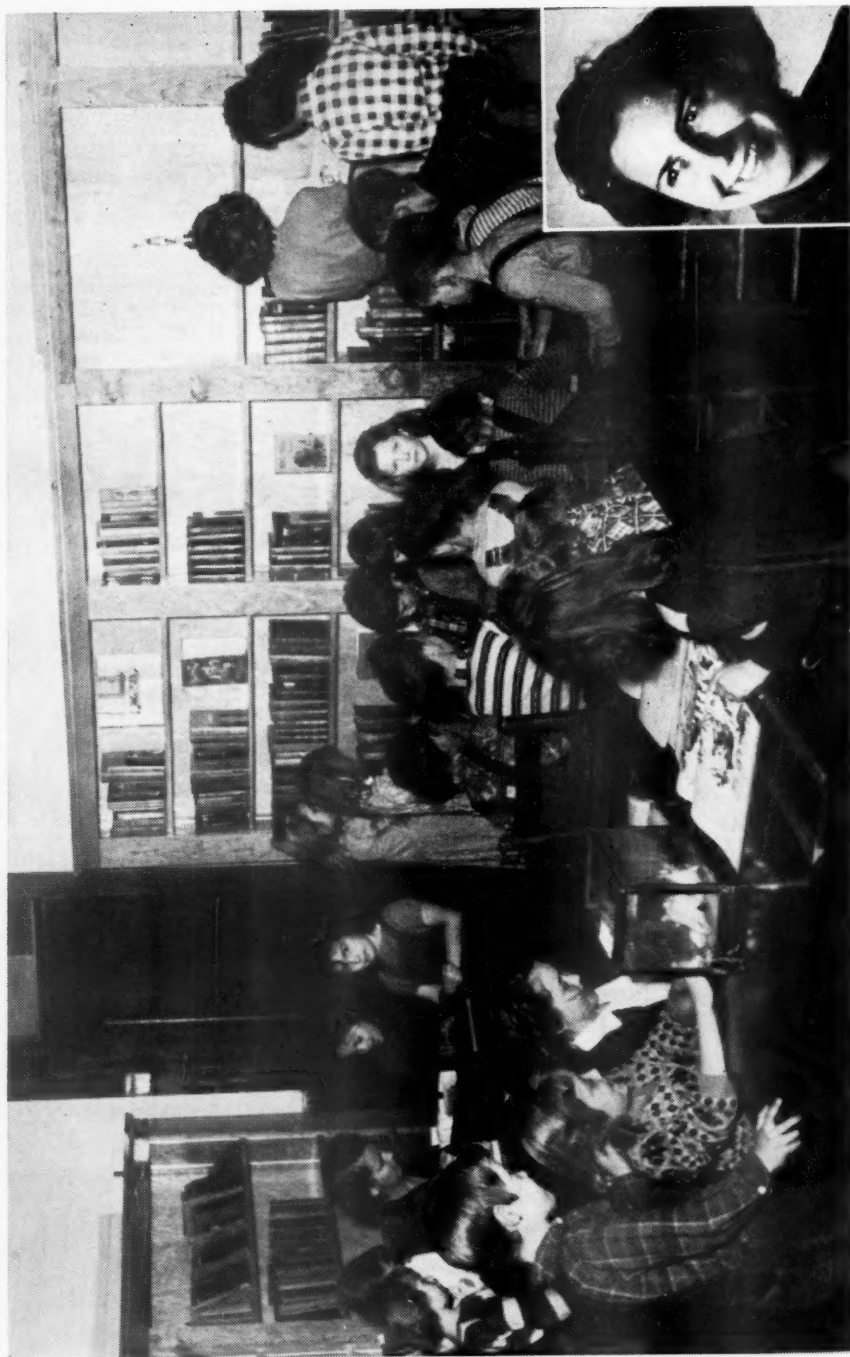
To Boards of Education of States,  
Cities and Other Governmental  
Units:

The Board of Education for Librarianship of the American Library Association strongly recommends that the graduate professional bachelor's degree in Library Science be recognized on a par with a master's degree in other fields in the evaluation of the credentials of professional librarians in comparison with those of the teaching staff of educational institutions. This recommendation is based upon the fact that the degree of Bachelor of Science in Library Science and its variant forms, as awarded by library schools accredited by the Board of Education for librarianship, represent the satisfactory completion of five years of higher education beyond high school grad-

uation. The degree is normally granted after a year of graduate study for which a bachelor's degree in the arts and sciences is prerequisite.

American Library Assn.  
Board of Education for  
Librarianship  
50 East Huron Street  
Chicago 11, Illinois.

How many of us realize that this has already been provided for by our state law? The Arkansas Teacher's Salary Law, Act 319 of 1941, amended for the fifth time by Act 451 of 1949, reads in part (Section 10.b): "It is further provided that the Bachelor's Degree in Library Science shall be rated as a Master's Degree in the case of persons already holding the Bachelor's Degree who later receive the Bachelor's Degree in Library Science from an approved institution requiring a Bachelor's Degree for admission to the course in Library Science."



Second Grade Class during regular library period, Deer Consolidated School, Deer, Arkansas. Inset: Mrs. Clara Kent, Librarian.



## DEER CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL LIBRARY

by Clara Kent

The library at Deer Consolidated School has emerged from a cubbyhole of a room to a room that measures 24' by 36'; it contains 1400 books when last year it had only 275. School funds were not available to make this transformation. The determination of the librarian, a superintendent with the word "library" engraved on his mind, and the cooperativeness of teachers and the community made our library possible.

Better than \$1500 was raised in cash and approximately 500 books were received from donors all over the United States. We started our campaign by writing several letters to outstanding citizens over the country. Among the persons contacted were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Mrs. Roberta Fulbright who made mention of the needs of our library in their respective newspaper columns. This started a flow of books and magazines from interested people from every section of the United States. (We found that people making donations of books are interested in sending only those books that are approved for library use, and they often sent us a list of titles to make our selection from or asked us to send a list of books that we needed.)

Mr. Jim G. Ferguson of Evanston, Illinois, offered to pay us up to \$500, and stipulated that he would pay fifty cents for every dollar that we

raised. This inspired the community to immediate action. Two local women became interested and went to surrounding communities and asked businessmen for donations. These young women collected approximately \$500. An additional \$500 was raised through various school activities. This netted us \$1500 to be spent for library needs.

Our library has all new furniture made from our own native cherry wood, constructed by local men in our own Agricultural Education workshop. We have ten new library tables and thirty-two chairs of various heights. The walls are outlined with adjustable shelves and magazine racks. We also have venetian blinds and fluorescent lights.

Our next move is to tear out a classroom partition and extend the library so that we may have a workroom with a lavatory.

Various kinds of meetings are held in the library. The community, as well as the school children, uses it, and everyone is very proud of this new addition to the school. Our school enrollment is 700 and our daily circulation of over 200 books is increasing each day.

J. W. Waters, Superintendent

Mrs. Clara Kent, Librarian

## NEWBERY-CALDECOTT AWARD WINNERS

de Angeli, Marguerite, **Door in the Wall**, Doubleday  
 Politi, Leo, **Song of the Swallows**, Scribner

**Donor of the medals** is Mr. Frederic G. Melcher. The John Newbery medal was established by Mr. Melcher in 1921, and the Caldecott medal in 1937. Winners are selected by the Newbery-Caldecott Awards Committee of the Children's Library Association. Miss Ruth E. Hewitt, superintendent of the Children's Department of the Seattle Public Library, was chairman of the committee which made the 1949 selections.

**Runners-up for the Newbery Medal are:**

Caudill, Rebecca, **Tree of Freedom**, Viking.

Coblentz, Catherine, **Blue Cat of Castle Town**, Longmans.

Montgomery, Rutherford, **Kildee House**, Doubleday.

Foster, Genevieve, **George Washington**, Scribner.

Havighurst, Walter and Marion, **Song of the Pines**, Winston.

**Runners-up for the Caldecott Medal are:**

Holbrook, Stewart, **America's Ethan Allen**, Houghton; illustrated by Lynd Ward.

Davis, Lavinia, **Wild Birthday Cake**, Doubleday; illustrated by Hildegard Woodward.

Krauss, Ruth, **The Happy Day**, Harper; illustrated by Marc Simont.

Brown, Marcia, **Henry-Fisherman**, Scribner.

Geisel, Theodor Seuss (Dr. Seuss), **Bartholomew and the Oobleck**, Random House.

**The awards were announced** by Mr. Melcher on March 6 at a press conference in his office in New York City. Since Los Angeles is the home of Mr. Politi, a press conference was also held there at the Public Library. The awards will be presented at a Newbery-Caldecott dinner to be held on Tuesday, July 18, during the 1950 ALA Conference in Cleveland, Ohio.



## MID-CENTURY WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE

As you know, the Mid-century White House Conference on Children and Youth has been called by President Truman for December 3, 1950, in Washington. The purpose of the conference is "to consider how we can develop in children the mental, emotional and spiritual qualities essential to individual happiness and to responsible citizenship."

Every state and territorial governor was invited by the President to appoint one person to a national White House Conference committee. (If you don't know who is your representative, ask your governor.) Every state has been urged to set up a state White House Conference Committee. Many states in expectation of this request already had such a committee or commission. A few included librarians from the beginning. In some, librarians have been recently added.

Information about state committees can be obtained from the governor's office, the state health or welfare department or the Washington office of the Mid-century White House Conference. This White House Conference is much more than a meeting in December. It is a year of study and exploration at the state and local level to examine children's needs and to find ways to meet them. It is a challenge to the many interested professions that serve children—health, welfare, education, librarianship, pa-

rent education, etc.—to work together in re-evaluating, planning, establishing and strengthening services affecting children.

Librarians wish to know how they can cooperate with all other groups to make authoritative materials accessible where needed. They also want to know how the attention of state White House Conference committees can be directed toward consideration of library services for children and for parents as part of studies of children's needs. The answers to these and other questions will depend on your state and local contacts. Activities carried on in preparation for the December meeting will be almost entirely of local or state origin.

In analyzing library inadequacies in relation to other children's needs, useful guides are the ALA Four-Year Goals (*ALA Bulletin* 48:121-2, March, 1948) and the Four-Year Goals of the Division of Libraries for Children and Young People (*Top of the News* 5:7, December, 1948). Will efforts toward these goals provide some of the library developments most needed in your state?

Note: Our state committee has been designated as Arkansas Council on Children and Youth. Mr. Robert H. Schnee, Arkansas Council on Children and Youth, Old State Highway Building, Little Rock, Arkansas, is Executive Secretary.—Ed.

## AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The American Library Association, the world's oldest and largest organization of librarians, will hold its 75th Anniversary Celebration in Chicago in 1951.

"Looking to our 75th anniversary, it was felt that the Association should set measurable goals which would give certain tangible results to be celebrated in 1951. In the Four-Year Goals, we state that we recognize the critical problems of our times, demand a re-direction of the services of every library, and place a heavy responsibility upon all libraries to achieve the goals. Major emphasis is being placed on spreading information and stimulating citizen-action on the critical problems facing our nation today. Libraries will have to change the intensity, direction, and even the nature of their services so that what the library does will contribute directly to the solution of these problems."

With censorship of reading and circulation of books and other printed materials a problem of increasing magnitude for libraries across the nation, A.L.A. undertook a major step with the adoption of an expanded and revised Library Bill of Rights. It condemns restrictions on intellectual freedom, stating that "the security of the state can best be maintained by defending, against all attacks, the basic freedoms which are our nation's most treasured heritage."

It has been pointed out that, despite the constantly growing demands for trained librarians, a critical shortage of librarians continues to face the profession. In view of this fact, the A.L.A. instigated a joint committee to consider ways and means of increasing the number of librarians. The Joint Committee on Library

Work as a Career since its organization in 1947 has been actively engaged in formulating a program for recruitment.

Mr. John Mackenzie Cory, A. L. A. Executive Secretary, blamed low library salaries for a major share of the current shortage of trained librarians, because salaries have not kept pace with increasing living costs. A survey of salaries and working conditions of library personnel was made by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics in cooperation with the A.L.A., in which full-time professional and non-professional positions in libraries of all types and sizes were covered.

Mounting costs of all kinds—printing, salaries, supplies, and services—have forced curtailment of some of the A.L.A.'s operations. While income has increased, costs have increased even faster. "Retrenchments have already been instituted, and other economy measures are well advanced to stem the tide, all in the face of a desperate need and demand for new activities and new services." Efforts to increase A.L.A. memberships and income from dues have been successful.

According to Mr. Cory: "The state of libraries in the United States today is not as rosy as we would like to have it, nor altogether gloomy. While rising costs and lagging incomes have certainly cut into our activities, the fact remains that librarians are facing up to the greatest challenge in their history. Such programs as the Four-Year Goals show that librarians are aware of their responsibilities to peace and democracy in a world beset by fear, insecurity, and threats of both physical and mental tyranny. This awakening should instill in us a new pride in the significance of our profession."

## CONFERENCE ON BIBLIOGRAPHIC ORGANIZATION

The Fifteenth Annual Conference (formerly Institute) of the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago will be held July 24-29 on the subject of "Bibliographic Organization".

The acceleration of publications in all fields has made it increasingly difficult for the librarian to meet the needs of scholar, technician, and general public. Better means of quick and accurate access to printed records of all kinds are needed. The conference will attempt to clarify current thought on the problems of bibliographical organization, which have recently received the attention of many agencies—public and private, national and international. Three major aspects will be considered: (1) the historical and philosophical background dealing with the functions, methods, and organization of bibliographical services; (2) current developments in both thinking and practice; (3) future trends in the field.

Already there is some evidence to support the belief that new techniques may render obsolete traditional library practices and tools. Although the functions of reference workers, classifiers and catalogers will be most immediately affected, in the long run the net effect should be improved accessibility of library materials for the general public. Because the librarian is in the best posi-

tion to observe the total flow of graphic communication and to analyze the relation between reader and reading materials, he can make further contributions to the development of the methods and organization of bibliographical services.

The topics to be covered during the Conference will include the special functions of bibliographic devices; the historical development of new types as literature changes and grows; the adequacy of existing services in the various subject fields, with special attention to specific problems in a few selected areas; the role of classification in the newer types of bibliographic devices; and the development of electronic and other machines, with their possible uses.

Because of the importance of this subject for future library planning and development, the program should be of interest to library administrators, to subject and functional department heads and assistants, and to special librarians, as well as to those engaged in research in the various subject fields.

A leaflet describing the detailed program of the Conference will be available upon request in the spring of 1950. For further information address the Dean of the Graduate Library School, University of Chicago.

Bernard Berelson, Dean

## NEWS NOTES

**The Arkansas Library Commission** is very happy to announce the appointment of Mrs. Anna Neal Muller as Consultant for Public and School Libraries. Mrs. Muller brings a wide variety of experiences to this position. Formerly, she has served as Head of Class Reserves Department and Cataloger for Kansas State College Library; Librarian of the Manhattan, Kansas, Public Library; Order Librarian for the Illinois State Library; and Librarian of the Free Public Library, Topeka, Kansas. She is a member of the American Library Association, Altrusa International, Phi Kappa Phi, and Mortar Board.

**Miss Nelle Castleberry** of Jonesboro is the new librarian of White County Library. Miss Castleberry was a staff member of Arkansas State College until she accepted the position in Searcy. She was with the Tulsa Public Library for more than three years before going to Jonesboro.

**Mrs. Arthur Paulsrud** is librarian of the Fayetteville Branch of the Washington County Library, to succeed Mrs. Helen Wiggans, resigned.

**A one-day workshop library clinic** was held at Danville High School Library, for a discussion of library principles and problems. The meeting was sponsored by the Arkansas State Department of Education, Yell county library, and the Arkansas Library Commission. Miss Mary Louise Giraud attended as representative of the Arkansas Library Commission, and Mr. J. H. Wasson attended as representative of the Arkansas State Department of Education. Mrs. Bertha Whiddon is Yell county librarian.

**A station library** of the Craighead County Library has been opened in the rear of the Julian James Store, Caraway, Arkansas. New books are brought to the Caraway Station Library once a month.

**Booneville** was host to a four-county library clinic co-sponsored by the Arkansas State Department of Education and the Arkansas Library Commission. Scott, Logan, Sebastian and Crawford counties were represented. The purpose of the clinic was discussion and analysis of problems such as library administration, requirements of the librarian and the library, and planning for a materials center. Miss Mary Louise Giraud of the Commission staff and Miss Gladys Sachse, Assistant Librarian, Arkansas State Teachers College, Conway, Arkansas, were discussion leaders.

**The regional library** of Cleburne and Independence counties sponsored a School Library Clinic in Desha High School Library at Desha. Speakers were Dean H. Whiteside, state supervisor of rural education, and Miss Mary Louise Giraud of the State Library Commission.

**Superintendents, principals, school librarians and public librarians** from fourteen towns and schools met Wednesday, March 15, at Waldo school for a three-county library clinic, with Columbia County as host. The program was arranged by the State Library Commission and State Department of Education. Counties represented were: Columbia, Lafayette, Miller and Ouachita. John Trice of the State Department of Education explained requirements of school librarians and libraries and quoted from criteria set up as standards. He encouraged schools to spend time and money on improvement of school library service. Miss Irene Mason and Miss Mary Louise Giraud of the State Library Commission told how help might be secured from the Commission, and Miss Florene Jordan talked on library science courses now being offered in Arkansas colleges. Mr. Wyatt Jackson is Columbia County

School superintendent, and Mrs. Jessie Hines is county librarian.

**The fact that comics and radio programs** are replacing the traditional family circle in providing entertainment for children in many homes today has been pointed out by Mrs. Betty Brewster, assistant home demonstration agent for Union County. In a talk to homemakers, Mrs. Brewster suggested reading aloud, either by one person or in turns, as a fine way of sharing creatively in the family group. In order that today's children may not miss the fellowship and fun afforded through family reading, more emphasis should be placed on the family bookshelf. Home demonstration agents and club leaders are

willing to suggest suitable books for reading aloud as well as those recommended for individual reading. Family reading is an art for which there can be no substitute, Mrs. Brewster stated.

**More and more libraries** are establishing memorial book collections. "Giving books as memorials has grown to be a nationwide custom. People who could never afford to give endowments as memorials have discovered that in giving a book to the library as a memorial, both lasting benefit and pleasure has been brought to a whole community. The memorials are not confined to books. Furniture, bearing a bronze marker, 'Memorial to \_\_\_\_\_' is also widely given."